



Admission Policy Scope and Admissions Statement

General

Scope

This policy covers all undergraduate and postgraduate taught programmes for UK, EU and overseas students which lead to approved awards of the Royal Veterinary College.

Purpose

The Royal Veterinary College (RVC) is committed to admitting high-quality students by identifying merit and potential and ensuring that its admissions process is fair and transparent.

The Admissions Policy and Procedures (the Policy) supports the goals, vision and aims of the RVC as laid out in our Strategic Plan. It complies with relevant legislation and is guided by the principles outlined by the Admissions to Higher Education Steering Group, the Office for Students, the Competition and Markets Authority and by the Quality Assurance Agency's UK Quality Code for Higher Education - Advice and Guidance: Admissions, Recruitment and Widening Access (2018). In the case of admission to our Veterinary Medicine and Veterinary Nursing courses these policies and procedures are also guided by the principles outlined by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

The Policy is reviewed annually by the Head of Admissions and, where changes are made, the document will be approved by the Recruitment and Admissions Committee (RAC), the Learning Teaching and Assessment Committee (LTAC) and Academic Board.

In line with best practice recommendations, this document is intended to provide applicants to the RVC and their advisers with information relating to how admissions processes operate at the RVC and the policies in place surrounding this. Whilst this document contains all of the information and guidance that RVC applicants will require, we recognise the need for the information within it to be accessible at different stages of the applicant journey. Therefore, in addition to being published in its entirety, sections of this document may also be published in relevant locations to ensure transparency and accessibility for all.

Where sections are published independently of the rest of the Policy, these will be updated in line with any changes to the main document.

Admissions Statement

The RVC is committed to operating an admissions process which is demonstrably fair, transparent, professional, and underpinned by appropriate and robust institutional structures. Admissions decisions are based on academic potential, irrespective of background.

In support of fair admissions, the RVC strives to:

- ensure that admissions decisions are based on an applicant's achievements and potential.
- embed fair admissions processes both centrally and across the RVC to ensure equality of educational opportunity regardless of the background of applicants.
- promote admissions processes that enable the fair and equitable treatment of each individual applicant without either direct or indirect discrimination.
- give full consideration to applications.
- equally consider all fully completed applications that are received by respective 'on-time' deadlines.
- seek to constantly refine our methods of selection to ensure that they fairly and reasonably discriminate amongst qualified students on the basis of their likely success on the course in question.
- guarantee that admissions decisions are consistent and that each stage of the admissions process is carried out with honesty and integrity by appropriate staff with relevant and up-to-date knowledge and expertise.
- for entry onto our undergraduate courses, create parity of esteem between traditional and other pre-HE qualification routes and fully recognise a wide range of international, access-based, and vocationally-related qualifications, and other indicators of potential;
- ensure the effective operation of the admissions process.
- make explicit the criteria by which admissions decisions are made.
- engage with external communities of students with a view to raising aspirations and encouraging students to realise that higher education is not 'out of reach'.

clearly document admissions decisions.